10/602,072

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 04329.2470-01000 Customer Number 22,852

U.S. Patent No.: 6,987,066 B2 Group Art Unit: 1765 Inventors: Shoji SETA et al. Examiner: Felisa Carla HITESHEW Issued: January 17, 2006 Confirmation No. 1239 DRY ETCHING METHOD AND SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE MANUFACTURING METHOD

**Commissioner for Patents** P.O. Box 1450 **Alexandria, VA 22313-1450** 

Sir:

## NOTICE OF ERROR IN THE DETERMINATION OF PATENT TERM ADJUSTMENT

As required by 65 FED. REG. 56387 (September 18, 2000), Applicants notify the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) of an error in the patent term adjustment. Applicants confirm receipt of the Notice of Determination of Patent Term Adjustment dated December 28, 2005.

The Notice indicates that the PTO has determined that the patent term adjustment period for this application is 298 days. Applicants respectfully request that the PTO identify how it arrived at this adjustment period. Applicants note that after receipt of the Notice of Allowance, they filed two Information Disclosure Statements (IDS's) on April 15 and June 20, 2005, and the time for the PTO to act on these IDS's does not appear to have been considered for possible reduction of patent term

adjustment. Applicants therefore ask that the PTO reconsider the patent term adjustment.

Please charge any necessary fees required to enter this paper to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: February 10, 2006

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RVB/FPD/klm

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